

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Allan Fanucci on 3/17/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 6, please replace "along said core and projecting radially outwards beyond the circumferential side wall portion of said core" with --from the second end wall--.

In claim 1, line 9, after "formed," please add --with--.

In claim 1, line 9, after "fins," please add -- along said core and projecting radially outwards beyond the circumferential side wall portion of said core which are--.

The final version of claim 1 should read as follows:

A bone implant comprising:

- (a) a core having a first end wall, a second end wall and defining a centerline extending centrally of and between said end walls, and a circumferential side wall portion parallel and extending between said end walls;
- (b) at least two axially elongated projections,
 - (i) extending from said second end wall
 - (ii) being disposed at a uniform circumferential spacing from each other about the centerline,

- (iii) having a rounded contour when viewed in axial direction of the core, and wherein each projection is formed with a plurality of fins along said core and projecting radially outwards beyond the circumferential side wall portion of said core and which are disposed in a row parallel with said centerline; and
- (c) said core and said projections being dimensioned to contact inner wall sections of a socket formed in a bone, said socket having a predetermined size and configuration compatible with that of the implant, when the implant has been tapped into the socket.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANN SCHILLINGER whose telephone number is (571)272-6652. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Fri. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Isabella can be reached on (571) 272-4749. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. S./
Examiner, Art Unit 3774

/DAVID ISABELLA/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3774